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NO. 4512 P. 1

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Dated: 17 June 2004

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Fax No: 703-746-9195

2nd REQUEST

Regarding:

Patent Application:

Inventor:

Cherng Linn TEO, Ah Chong TEE,
Mylene Angele Kit-Njoek TJIN WONG JOE, Dennis CHUA

Serial No:

10/619,063

Filed:

July 11, 2003

Title:

Mobile Printer And Paper Feeder

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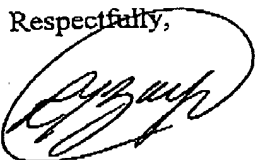
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Respectfully,



Ramona J. Zaya
Legal Administrator

Enclosure

Filing Receipt

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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	HL FEE REC'D	ATTY DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/619,063	07/11/2003	2852	750	700110517-1	3	8	2

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RE: U.S. Patent Application PD No.700110517-1 Atty: RPL

Inventor(s): Cherge Linn, Teo, et al

Title: Method And Apparatus For Providing Print Media To A Printing Device

X Transmittal Letter, (in duplicate)

12 Page(s) of specification, claims & abstract; 8 claims total

X Declaration and Power of Attorney X signed or unsigned or partial)

3 Sheet(s) of drawings

X Information Disclosure Statement

X PTO Form 1449

X Certificate of Mail dated July 11, 2003

Label No. EV104130539US

PATENT APPLICATION

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P. O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

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Patent Application Transmittal Letter

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(X) original patent application.

() continuation-in-part application

INVENTOR(S): Cherng Linn TEO, Ah Chong TEE, Mylene Angela Kit-Njoak TJIN WONG JOE,
Dennis CHUA

TITLE: Method And Apparatus For Providing Print Media To A Printing Device

Enclosed are:

- (X) The Declaration and Power of Attorney. (X) signed () unsigned or partially signed
(X) 6 sheets of drawings (one set) () Associate Power of Attorney
() Form PTO-1449 (X) Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449
() Priority document(s) () (Other) (fee \$)


CLAIMS AS FILED BY OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY				
(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) TOTALS
TOTAL CLAIMS	21 — 20	1	X \$18	\$ 18
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	4 — 3	1	X \$84	\$ 84
ANY MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS	0		\$280	\$ 0
BASIC FEE: Design (\$330.00); Utility (\$750.00)				\$ 750
TOTAL FILING FEE				\$ 852
OTHER FEES				\$
TOTAL CHARGES TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT				\$ 852

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By 
Typed Name: Tiffany J. Turner

Respectfully submitted,

Cherng Linn TEO, Ah Chong TEE,

By 

Richard B. Main

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 33,258

Date: 7-11-2003

Telephone No.: (650) 957-3974

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P. O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

PAT. NO. 4512 ICA P. 6

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Sir:

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☒ original patent application,

☐ continuation-in-part application

INVENTOR(S): Cherng Linn TEO, Ah Chong TEE, Mylene Angele Kit-Njoek TJIN WONG JOE,
Dennis CHUA

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BASIC FEE: Design (\$330.00); Utility (\$750.00)				\$ 750
TOTAL FILING FEE				\$ 852
OTHER FEES				\$
TOTAL CHARGES TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT				\$ 852

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Date: 7-11-2003

Telephone No.: (650) 857-3974

- 1 -

PATENT APPLICATION
PDNO 700110517

5

MOBILE PRINTER AND PAPER FEEDER

Field Of The Invention

10 The present invention relates generally to printers, and more specifically, to paper feeding mechanisms and methods for mobile printers.

Background Of The Invention

15 Various sizes of paper have become standardized throughout the world for various print jobs. In the United States, business is routinely conducted with "letter" size paper, e.g., 8.5" x 11". In the past, the legal profession used "legal" sized paper, e.g., 8.5" x 14". In Europe, so-called "A4" is
20 used which is a bit narrower and a little longer than "letter" sized paper. Photographs have standardized on 8" x 10", Hagaki, and 4" x 6" print sizes. So a commercial necessity has emerged for printers that can handle all the common sizes of paper now in use.

25 Large, desktop printers have the luxury of having interchangeable paper trays that can be specialized for each paper size. Some paper trays have adjustable fences that allow different widths of paper to be loaded in a cassette. But small, mobile printers have no slide-in cassette trays at all,
30 and rely on a manual or gravity feed of paper from the top.

Attorney Docket No. 700110517-1

- 2 -

Conventional printers can lay a lot of ink on a photo paper printout, and such ink can require a few extras seconds to dry and resist smudging. When more than one photo paper sheet is being printed, the later sheets output can smudge the top ones
5 in the output stack. So it helps if the later sheets are gently dropped flat on the stack.

Attorney Docket No. 700110517-1

- 3 -

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Briefly, a printer embodiment of the present invention is a mobile, color printer capable of printing on letter-size plain paper and standard-size photo paper. A fold-up paper feeder acts as a cover during travel, and as a storage tray for several sheets of paper to allow automatic feeding from a vertical stack. A slotted door hinged to the back of the printer, and under the hinges for the fold-up paper feeder/cover, can be flipped up or down. In the down position, a slot on the right side guides the user to feed in photo paper in the correct location. In the up position, letter-size plain paper has full-width access to the printing mechanism, and a sliding adjustable guide on the left allows letter, A4, and other size papers to be lightly corralled on both sides.

An advantage of the present invention is that a printer is provided that is easily portable.

Another advantage of the present invention is that a printer is provided that can accommodate various sizes of paper and photo card stock.

A further advantage of the present invention is that a printer is provided that is inexpensive to produce.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1A is a perspective view of a mobile printer embodiment of the present invention showing its paper feeder/cover open, the paper support arm extended, and the photo-paper door gate folded down so the user has to feed photo paper through the slot;

Fig. 1B is a perspective view of the mobile printer of Fig. 1A showing its paper feeder/cover open, the paper support arm extended, and the photo-paper door gate folded up so the user can load letter-sized paper between the adjustable guide on the left and the fixed guide on the right;

Fig. 1C is a perspective view of the mobile printer of Fig. 1A showing photo-paper being fed through the slot in the door gate, and another piece of printed photo-paper being output from the front; and

Fig. 1D is a perspective view of the mobile printer of Fig. 1B showing letter-sized paper being fed with the door gate opened and out of the way, and with the adjustable guide on the left set for this sized paper, and another piece of paper being output from the front after printing.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE EMBODIMENTS

Fig. 1A represents a mobile printer embodiment of the present invention, and is referred to herein by the general reference numeral 100. In one embodiment, the mobile printer

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100 is generally about 13.3" x 3.2" x 6.5" and weighs about 4.2 pounds. It is capable of portable, battery powered operation. The mobile printer 100 includes a base 102 to which is hinged a paper-feeder/cover 104. In the closed position, the printer can
5 be conveniently carried. Mobile printer 100 can accommodate plain and coated paper, labels, transparencies, Hagaki, card stock, envelopes, banner, and photo paper.

A paper support 106 can be extended to support the free end of paper loaded in the paper-feeder/cover 104. A hinged door
10 108 has a slot 110 that allows Hagaki or other photo papers to be fed in at an optimum offset from the right edge. This offset allows printing to commence much closer to the right edge of the photo paper, and it helps the stiffer photo paper to avoid a curling device inside before a paper output slot. Such curling
15 device curls up the left and right edges of plain bond letter size paper so the paper will cantilever out while being output, and helps prevent smearing of a previously discharged page. A color ink cartridge and inkjet printhead 114 and a black ink cartridge and inkjet printhead 116 move left and right across
20 the paper feeding-through during each print job. A right-edge guide 118 is visible and is in a fixed position. However, the right edge of slot 110 is offset to the left from this, and the slot controls how far to the right a photo paper can be loaded in.

25 In Fig. 1B, the hinged door 108 has been flipped up to get it out of the way for the printer to receive, e.g., plain-bond letter-size paper. An adjustable left-side guide 120 can now be seen. It is slide-mounted to the underside of the hinged door 108 and is used to lightly corral the left edge of the papers

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being input. The left-side guide 120 is preferably adjustable to accommodate at least letter-size paper sheets, A4-size paper sheets, and envelopes. The right-side fixed paper guide 118 lightly corrals in the right edge of such papers being input.

5 The slot 110 no longer limits access to the printing zone beneath because it is folded up out of the way.

In Fig. 1C, a Hagaki or 4" x 6" piece of photo paper 122 is shown as feeding through the slot 110. The finished, printed output is represented by a sheet 124.

10 In Fig. 1D, a letter-size sheet of paper 126 is shown as feeding directly into the printer with the door 108 folded up and the adjustable left side guide 120 properly set.. The output is represented by a sheet 128 that has had its edges 130 and 132 curled up. Such curling is impressed on sheet 128 by a
15 pair of curling lifts inside output slot 112.

In an alternative embodiment of the present invention, the pair of curling lifts inside output slot 112 are articulated such that they retract when door 108 is folded down to receive the Hagaki or 4" x 6" piece of photo paper 122. Such photo
20 paper is usually stiffer than bond paper 126, so the curling lifts are unnecessary. They can also significantly increase the force needed to output sheet 124 if not retracted.

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The print media referred to herein includes plain paper, envelopes, coated paper, photo or glossy paper, transparency, card stock, index card, photo card, post card, hagaki card, labels, iron-on transfers, and any other suitable print media.

- 5 Print media sizes useable with embodiments of the present invention include:

A4 (210mm x 297mm),
A5 (148mm x 210mm),
A6 Card (105mm x 148mm),
B5 (182mm x 257mm),
executive (7.25" x 10.5"), legal (8.5" x 14"),
letter (8.5" x 11"),
index card (3" x 5"),
photo/post card (4" x 6"),
Hagaki card (100mm x 148mm),
6-3/4 envelope (3.25" x 6.5"),
7-3/4 envelope (3.875" x 7.5"),
#9-envelope (3.875" x 8.9"),
#10-envelope (4.125" x 9.5"),
A2 baronial (111mm x 146mm),
B5 envelope (176mm x 250mm),
C5 envelope (162mm x 229mm),
C6 envelope (114mm x 162mm),
DL envelope (110mm x 220mm) and
custom sizes (Up to 8.5" x 17", 216mm x 432mm).

- 10 Although the present invention has been described in terms of the presently preferred embodiments, it is to be understood that the disclosure is not to be interpreted as limiting. Various alterations and modifications will no doubt become apparent to those skilled in the art after having read the above
- 15 disclosure. Accordingly, it is intended that the appended claims be interpreted as covering all alterations and

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modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

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CLAIMS

1. A mobile printer, comprising:

- 5 a printing mechanism for printing on a plurality of
sizes of papers and sheet medias;
an enclosure in which the printing mechanism is
disposed;
a hinged cover attached to the top rear of the
enclosure and providing for access of said plurality of sizes of
10 papers and sheet medias to be input from the top to said printing
mechanism;
a hinged door positioned between the hinged cover and
the printing mechanism and capable of being flipped up when the
hinged cover is open to allow a large sheet of paper from a stack
15 to enter; and
a slot disposed in the hinged door and providing for a
limitation of the size and position that small photo paper can
enter the printing mechanism when the hinged door is flipped
down.

20

2. The printer of claim 1, further comprising:

- a fixed right-side guide attached underneath the hinged
cover and that provides a reference right-edge to align said
large sheet of paper from said stack while entering.

25

3. The printer of claim 1, further comprising:

- an adjustable left-side guide attached underneath the
hinged door and that provides a reference left-edge to align said
large sheet of paper from said stack while entering.

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4. The printer of claim 2, wherein:

the slot is offset on its right to the left of the fixed right-side guide position.

5 5. The printer of claim 1, wherein:

the hinged cover serves as both a paper sheet stacking tray in its open position and an enclosure cover in its closed position.

10 6. The printer of claim 1, further comprising:

a pair of curling lifts positioned after the printing mechanism and providing for an edge curling of said large sheet of paper that enables a cantilevering during print job output, wherein smudging of still-wet inks on previous sheets output is
15 reduced.

7. The printer of claim 1, further comprising:

an articulation between the curling lifts and the hinged door that retracts the curling lifts when the hinged door
20 is in its closed position for receiving small photo papers, wherein a heavier stock photo paper is prevented from binding during its passage through the printing mechanism.

8. A method for printing various sizes of papers in a
25 printer, comprising:

providing a printing mechanism for printing on a plurality of sizes of papers and sheet medias;
disposing said printing mechanism inside an enclosure;

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attaching a hinged cover to the top rear of said enclosure and providing for access of said plurality of sizes of papers and sheet medias to be input from the top to said printing mechanism;

- 5 positioning a hinged door between said hinged cover and printing mechanism for being flipped up when the hinged cover is open to allow a large sheet of paper from a stack to enter; and
- disposing a slot in the hinged door to provide for a limitation of the size and position that a small photo paper can
- 10 enter said printing mechanism when said hinged door is flipped down.

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A mobile, color printer capable of printing on letter-size plain paper and standard-size photo paper has a fold-up paper
5 feeder that acts as a cover during travel. Such also serves as a storage tray for several sheets of paper to allow automatic feeding from a vertical stack. A slotted door hinged to the back of the printer, and under the hinges for the fold-up paper feeder/cover, can be flipped up or down. In the down position,
10 a slot on the right side guides the user to feed in photo paper in the correct location. In the up position, letter-size plain paper has full-width access to the printing mechanism, and a sliding adjustable guide on the left allows letter, A4, and other size papers to be lightly corralled on both sides.

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Fig. 1A

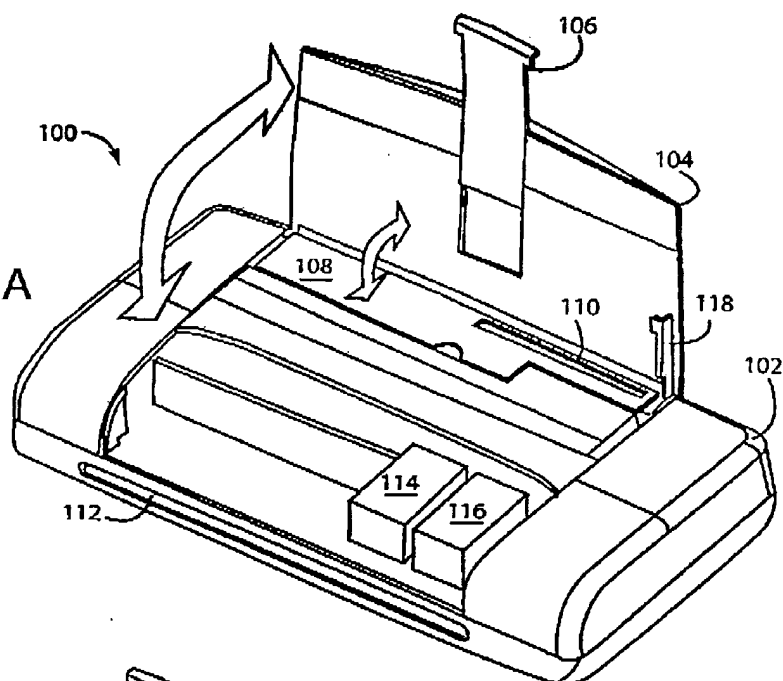
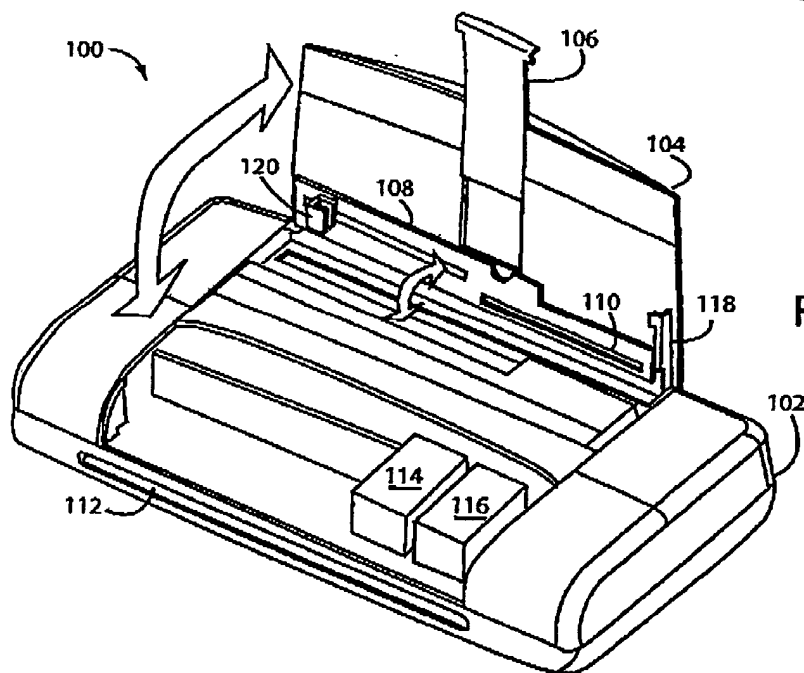
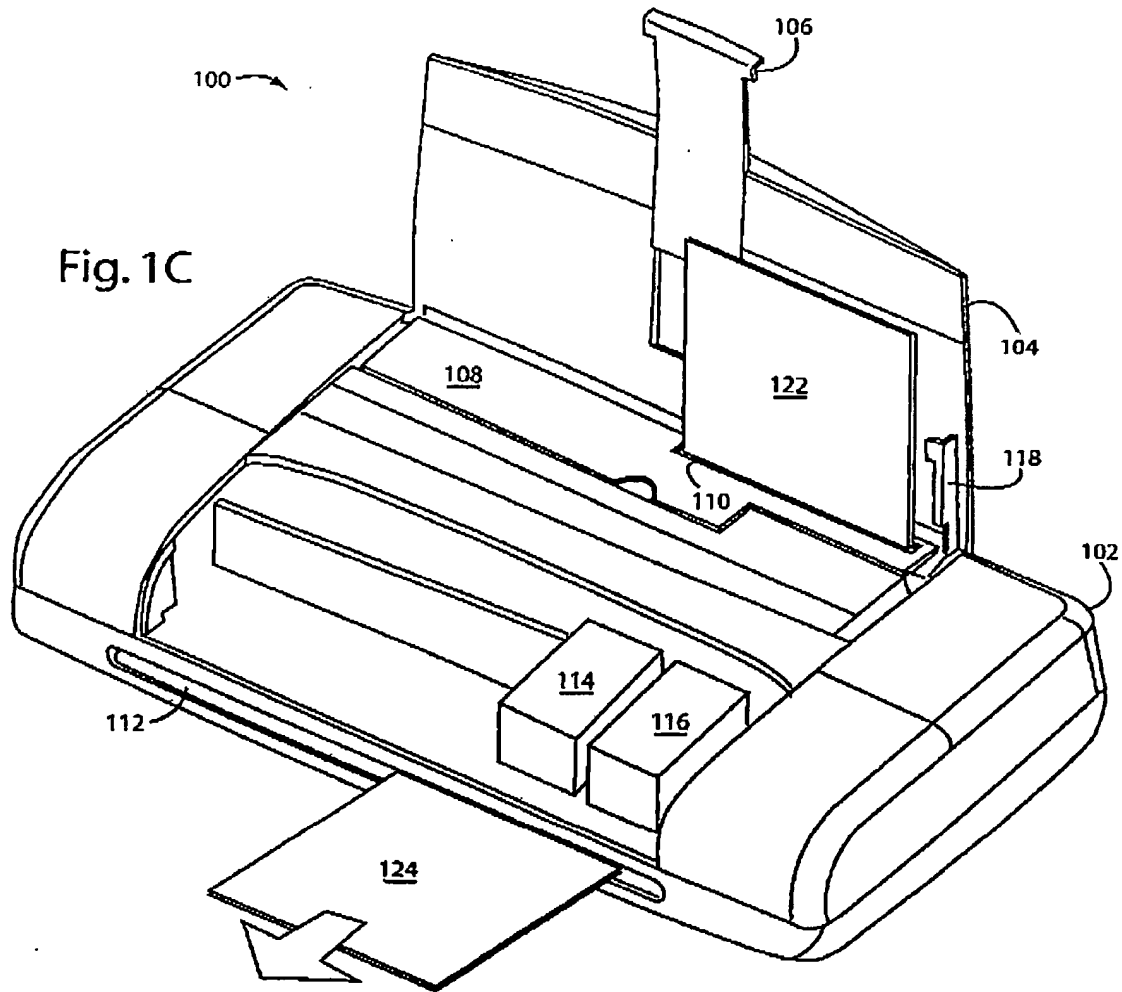
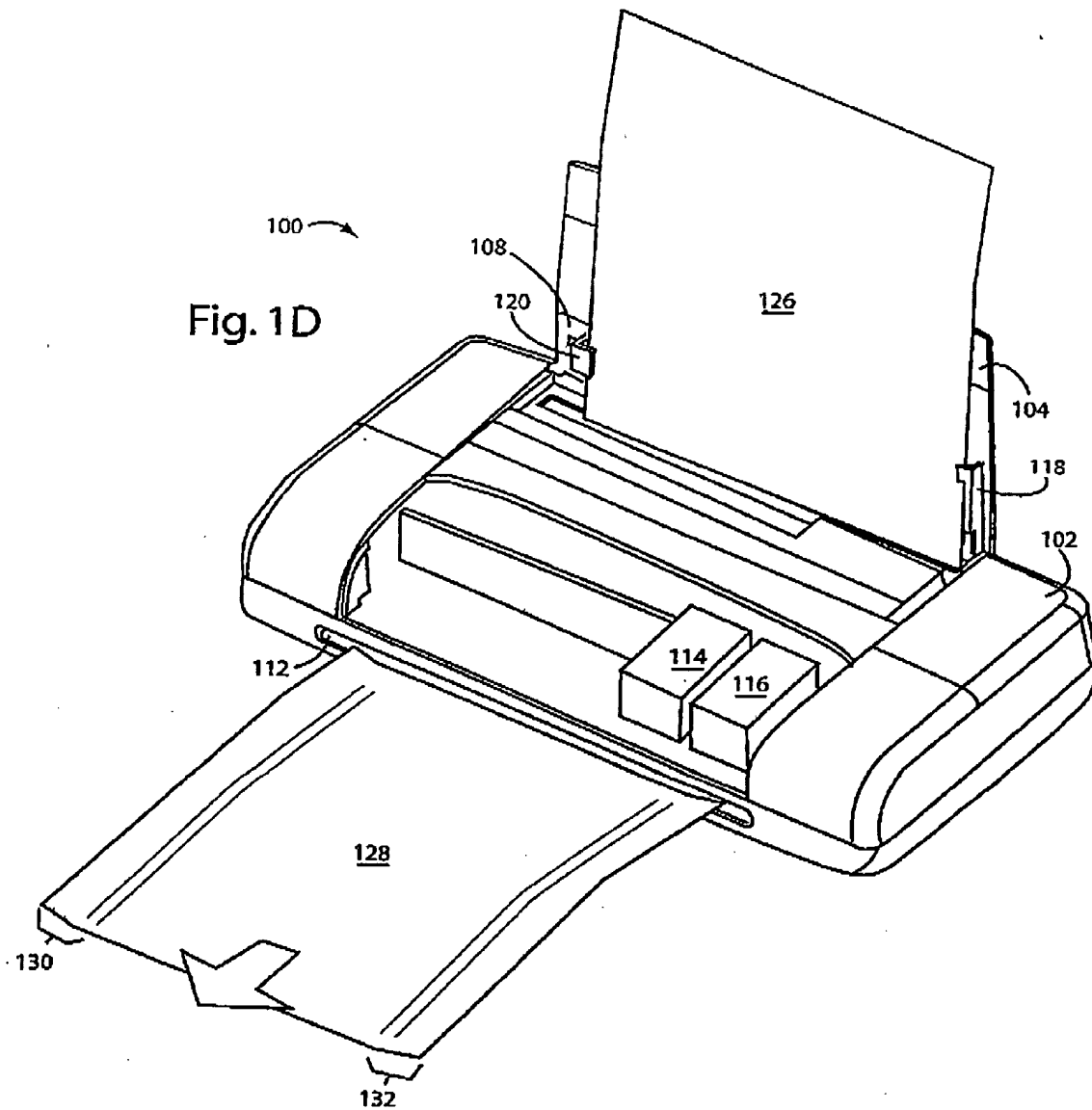


Fig. 1B







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RE: U.S. Patent Application PD No.700110517-1 Atty: RPL

Inventor(s): Cherge Linn, Teo, et al

Title: Method And Apparatus For Providing Prior Media To A Printing Device

- ☒ Transmittal Letter, (in duplicate)
- 12 Page(s) of specification, claims & abstract; 8 claims total
- ☒ Declaration and Power of Attorney ☒ signed or ☐ unsigned or partial)
- 3 Sheet(s) of drawings
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☒ PTO Form 1449
- ☒ Certificate of Mail dated July 11, 2003
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